

REMARKS

Claims 1, 9-14, 18, 24-26, 29, 37-42, 46, 52-54, 56-57, 61-65, and 69-74 are pending, with claims 1, 29, 61, and 71 being independent. Claims 1, 9-10, 29, 37-38, 61, and 71 have been amended and claims 2, 4-8, 15-17, 19, 27-28, 30, 32-36, 43-45, 47, 55, 58-60, 66-68, and 75-78 have been cancelled by this reply.

This reply is being filed in response to the Final Office Action that was mailed on March 12, 2003, which has an appeal that is currently pending. The Final Office Action raised several new issues that may preclude adequate consideration of the appeal on the merits. This reply attempts to resolve those issues, or at least frame them in furtherance of the appeal.

As will be described, the claim amendments presented by this reply are formal, primarily addressing issues raised in the Final Office Action. Consequently, they are believed to raise no new issues.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Moody / Okada Rejection

Claims 1, 9-14, 18, 24-26, 29, 37-42, 46, 52-54, 56-57, 61-65, and 69-74 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moody (U.S. Patent No. 5,966,533) in view of Okada (U.S. Patent No. 5,956,029). For the reasons set forth below, the reversal of the rejection of claims 1, 9-14, 18, 24-26, 29, 37-42, 46, 52-54, 56-57, 61-65, and 69-74 is requested.

In claim 1, a set of user interface controls, including a toolbar, is provided to a user. The set of user interface controls provided depends in turn upon a grouping associated with the user. The grouping to be associated with the user is chosen from among multiple possible groupings based upon the user's maturity level. The user's maturity level is determined by accessing a database and accessing the maturity level based on the user identity associated with the user. Claim 1 recites that, in providing the set of user interface controls, an existing collection of user interface controls is visually changed by adding or removing a user interface control to the existing collection of user interface controls.

Moody fails to disclose visually changing an existing collection of controls by adding or removing a user interface control to the existing collection of user interface controls, as

acknowledged by the Office Action, which turns to Okada for such disclosure. See Final Office Action at pages 2-3. Applicants submit that Okada is similarly deficient.

Okada converts a picture interface provided by an application program to a new picture interface so as to trigger a change in the picture provided by the application program. Additionally, Okada teaches adding sound effects for a juvenile user. However, Okada fails to visually change an existing collection of user interface controls by adding or removing a user interface control to the existing collection of user interface controls. Instead, Okada extracts picture information from an existing application and performs a conversion for the information at a designated target point.

Thus Moody and Okada, either alone or in combination, do not establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness with regard to claim 1.

For the purposes of this rejection, the other rejected independent claims recite elements consistent with those of claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants request the reversal of the rejection of independent claims 1, 29, 61, and 71. Similarly, Applicants request the reversal of the rejection of dependent claims 9-14, 18, 24-26, 37-42, 46, 52-54, 56-57, 62-65, 69-70, and 72-74, which depend therefrom.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Moody Rejection

Claim 61-65 and 69-74 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moody. As discussed above with respect to claim 1, independent claims 61 and 71 recite elements consistent with those of claim 1 and are allowable over Moody for at least the reasons set forth above. In particular, Moody does not establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness with regard to claims 61 and 71. For at least the reasons set forth above, the reversal of the rejection of claims 61-65 and 69-74 is requested.

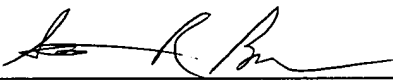
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Enclosed is a \$300.00 check for a two-month Extension of Time fee. Please note that the one-month extension of time fee of \$110.00 was paid with the Notice of Appeal filed on July 11, 2003. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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